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### Havre student finds unique way to volunteer

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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March 7, 2007

**Contact:** Dean McGovern, executive director, Montana Campus Compact, 406-243-5177, [mcgovern@mtcompact.org](mailto:mcgovern@mtcompact.org).

### **HAVRE STUDENT FINDS UNIQUE WAY TO VOLUNTEER**

#### **MISSOULA—**

When Montana State University-Northern student Gerri Seymour decided to volunteer through the Montana Campus Compact, she probably didn't think she would be butchering meat.

But last winter Seymour, who mentors at-risk youth through her work with MTCC, also spent many of her volunteer hours at the **Havre** Food Bank helping them butcher wild game donated by hunters during a meat shortage.

The food bank posted signs around Havre asking hunters to donate wild game to fulfill meat requirements in winter food baskets.

The organization received 61 animals, said Maggie Doll, who directs the food bank. Hunters brought antelope, deer, elk, big horn sheep and mountain goats, and Seymour helped butcher a lot of them.

"Late in the hunting season, we had several big bucks and even a bear," said Doll.

On average, the animals produced between 22 and 25 packages of meat to be distributed to qualified individuals and families.

The food bank no longer requests wild game donations because of a recent partnership

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with Albertsons. But despite the abundance of beef, pork and chicken that comes to the food bank through that partnership, many of their patrons still request wild game meat in their food baskets.

"Some folks prefer the wild game," Doll said. "We have a chalkboard that lists our daily meat choices, and folks can choose wild game from the available options."

MTCC is a coalition of 19 colleges and universities serving communities throughout the state. It is the only statewide higher education organization whose primary purpose is to prepare the next generation of informed, active, committed citizen leaders for Montana.

The organization supports civic activities that include community service, service-learning projects and building campus-community partnerships. Its programs benefit community members such as low-income families, the elderly, at-risk youth and migrant and minority groups.

For more information, call Executive Director Dean McGovern at 406-243-5177 at or e-mail [mcgovern@mtcompact.org](mailto:mcgovern@mtcompact.org).

Further information about the Havre Food Bank is available by calling Doll at 406-265-2007.

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